

Message Text

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OMB:RGREENSTEIN (SUBS)

AID/FFP:DSHAUGHNESSY

USDA/OGSM:MCHAMBLISS

-----102113Z 122302 /66

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 106137

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

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PAGE 02 STATE 106137

TAGS: EAGR, WFP, UN, AORG

SUBJECT: WFP PLEDGE TARGET

1. AT THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM'S COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID
POLICIES AND PROGRAMS (CFA) MEETING IN ROME (MAY 16-27)
ONE OF THE MAIN AGENDA ITEMS WILL CONCERN THE PROPOSED

PLEDGE TARGET FOR 1979/1980. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAS SUGGESTED A TARGET LEVEL OF DOLLARS 950 MILLION. (THE 1977/78 TARGET IS DOLLARS 750 MILLION.) WE DO NOT FEEL THE SECRETARIAT HAS JUSTIFIED THE INCREASE AND THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOW CONSIDERING SUPPORT FOR A TARGET AROUND THE DOLLARS 825 MILLION LEVEL. DRAWING ON POINTS BELOW, EMBASSIES ARE URGED TO ASCERTAIN AND REPORT SOONEST ON POSITIONS OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRY MEMBERS OF CFA WILL TAKE.

2. -- WE FEEL WFP CAN DO MORE TO HELP THE POOREST LDC'S RAISE THEIR ABILITY TO ABSORB EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE. WHILE THEIR POPULATIONS ARE NOT AS GREAT AS OTHER NEEDY AREAS, I.E., SOUTH ASIA, WFP IS ONE OF THE FEW SOURCES OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO THEM.

-- WFP RESOURCES HAVE BEEN EXPANDING RAPIDLY, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE 1974 WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. WE FEEL THAT A BIENNium OF SOMEWHAT SLOWER GROWTH WOULD PRESENT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR WFP TO REASSESS, IN COOPERATION WITH UNDP, FAO, AND THE IFI'S, THE KIND OF PROJECTS IT UNDERTAKES AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS IT CAN EFFECTIVELY MAKE TO THE POOREST LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. MAKING FOOD AID A BETTER COORDINATED PART OF OVERALL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IS A POINT WHICH OUR CONGRESS HAS PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED TO THE ADMINISTRATION DURING THIS SPRING'S CONSIDERATION OF NEW PL 480 LEGISLATION.

-- THE 1977/78 DOLLARS 750 MILLION TARGET IS STILL NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 106137

MET. CURRENT PLEDGES ARE DOLLARS 563 MILLION OR 75 PERCENT. DOLLARS 950 MILLION WILL BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT TO REACH, ESPECIALLY IF THERE ARE NO MAJOR NEW DONORS IN SIGHT (WHICH WAS OUR LATEST UNDERSTANDING FROM WFP SOURCES). INSISTENCE ON A HIGH TARGET COULD LEAD SOME DONORS EITHER TO SUBSTITUTE HIGH DOLLAR VALUE, LOW VOLUME COMMODITIES FOR THOSE MORE URGENTLY NEEDED, OR IT COULD LEAD TO CUTS IN THE PERCENTAGE SHARES MAJOR DONORS CONTRIBUTE.

-- THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PROPOSAL IS BASED IN PART ON AN ASSUMPTION THAT THE FOOD AID CONVENTION (FAC) WILL NOT BE RENEWED IN 1978. DISCUSSIONS ON A NEW FAC BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER. BASED ON FAC'S SUCCESS TO DATE, IT SEEMS PREMATURE TO PREJUDGE THESE NEGOTIATIONS. MR. ROBINSON HAS ESTIMATED THAT RENEWAL OF THE FAC WOULD DECREASE DEMANDS ON WFP IN 1979/80 BY DOLLARS 75 MILLION.

3. PLEASE REPLY INFO ROME FOR FODAG. ROME HOLD ONE SET

OF COPIES FOR DELEGATION. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: EAGR, AORG, AS, UN, WFP
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